

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the non-final Office action mailed December 12, 2005. Reexamination and reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully solicited.

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application, with Claims 1, 10, and 14 being the independent claims. Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 14, and 16-18 have been amended, claims 3, 5, and 15 have been canceled, and claims 7-13 were previously withdrawn. The Applicants thank the Examiner for finding allowable subject matter in claims 4-6 and 16-18. No new matter is believed to have been added.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-3 and 14-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by GB 958547 ("UK").

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 5, and now recites, *inter alia*, an alignment cage having first and second faces between which openings extend and at least a third face coupling the first and second faces and one or more vibration suppressors coupled to the alignment cage where at least one of the vibration suppressors comprises one or more arc segments coupled to the third face by one or more springs. Claim 14 has also been amended and now recites a cage, a spring coupled to the cage, and a mass coupled to the spring.

UK teaches a bearing that includes a packing ring and rolling element retainer, wherein the packing ring and rolling element retainer are adhered to one another. See col. 2, lines 53-59 and lines 99-90. However, nowhere does UK mention one or more vibration suppressors coupled to the alignment cage where at least one of the vibration suppressors comprises one or more arc segments coupled to the third face by one or more springs, as recited in claim 1, or a spring coupled to the cage and a mass coupled to the spring, as recited in claim 14.

A claim can only be anticipated if each and every element recited in the claim is disclosed in a reference, either explicitly or impliedly. Accordingly, as UK fails to disclose, either explicitly or inherently, at least the above-noted element of claims 1 and 14 and the Examiner has failed to provide such an explicit or inherent disclosure of this element, it is

respectfully submitted that the rejection of these claims and the claims that depend therefrom is improper and the Applicants request withdrawal of the § 102(e) rejection.

Conclusion

Based on the above, independent Claims 1 and 14 are patentable over the citations of record. The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable for the reasons given above with respect to the independent claims and because each recite features which are patentable in its own right. Individual consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully solicited.

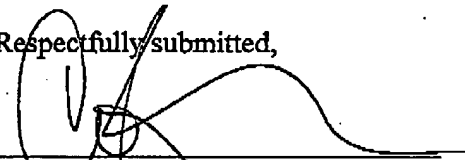
The other art of record is also not understood to disclose or suggest the inventive concept of the present invention as defined by the claims.

Hence, Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections and rejections set forth in the above-noted Office Action, and an early Notice of Allowance are requested.

If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number.

If for some reason Applicant has not paid a sufficient fee for this response, please consider this as authorization to charge Ingrassia, Fisher & Lorenz, Deposit Account No. 50-2091 for any fee which may be due.

Dated 1/23/06
Ingrassia, Fisher & Lorenz, P.C.
Customer No. 29906

Respectfully submitted,

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